

Japanese honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

Rating: 5.0 (2 votes)



This description is for *Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica)*:

There is no need to speak Japanese with this honeysuckle. It smells of English custard.

With arguably the most delicate-looking fine white blossoms to be found anywhere, *Lonicera japonica* is understandably a highly desired climber amongst gardeners. Known as the Japanese honeysuckle, this semi-evergreen perennial has mid to dark green, ovate leaves, which grow from reddish-brown stems. In early summer, elegant, double-tongued white tubular blossoms that have a strong vanilla fragrance enhance the attractive foliage. These flowers give way to small dark blue berries in autumn. Japanese honeysuckle grows best in moist but well-drained soil in full sun. Highly invasive, it typically needs some pruning to curtail growth. It is a stunning addition to cottage gardens, where walls, trellises and fences require cover.



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| Plant | Environment | Usage |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Known dangers? yes | Acidity Acidic Neutral Alkaline | Standard category Climbers |

| Plant | Environment | Usage |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dangers: comments Avoid eating its berries, or risk having mild stomach upset. | Hardiness zone Z4-9 | Grown for Attractive Flowers |
| Height [m] 2 - 3 | Heat zone H8-1 | Creative category Fine fragrants For Beginners Colours Bonsai For birds & bees |
| Spread [m] 1 | Winter temperatures [°C] -34 - -1 | Garden type Cottage garden Coastal |
| Dominant flower colour Yellow | Heat days 0 - 120 | Garden spaces Walls, trellises and pergolas |
| Flower Fragrance Yes, let it smell | Moisture well-drained well-drained but frequently watered | Gardening expertise beginner |
| Flowering seasons Mid spring Late spring Early summer Mid summer | Soil type sandy Clay chalky loams | Time to reach full size up to 10 years |
| Foliage in spring Yellow | Sun requirements Full sun Partial shade | |
| Foliage in summer Yellow | Exposure Exposed Sheltered | |
| Foliage in Autumn Yellow | | |
| Propagation methods seed | | |
| Growth habit Climbing | | |